

# The NORTHWEST AIRLIFTER

McChord Air Force Base, Wash. Connecting Team McChord with the Combat Airlift Mission Vol. 38, No. 40 Oct. 6, 2006

Inside

**McChord heats up for Fire Prevention Week,**  
Page 5

**Tower of power,**  
Pages 10-11

**62nd CPTS excels during crunch time,**  
Page 12



## Fall into fun

### Families of deployed Airmen join together

By  
Tyler Hemstreet  
Staff writer

Fall will be the theme for the next free Family Deployment Dinner, which begins at 6 p.m. Oct. 16 at the chapel support center.

Families of McChord servicemembers who are deployed, on an extended TDY or a remote tour are invited to the quarterly dinner.

The dinner is an opportunity for families to see what services are available to them, said Chaplain (Capt.) Kathy Scott, 62nd Airlift Wing.

"It can open up lines of communication between families in similar situations," she said.

Volunteers will serve chili, cornbread, pop-corn balls and apple pie. Weather permitting, there will be an inflatable bounce-around castle set up outside, as well as plenty of crafts for younger children. There will also be a Dance Dance Revolution video game system set up for older children.

In order to ensure volunteers prepare plenty of food for the guests, Chaplain (Maj.) Bruce Marshall, 62nd AW, encourages families to RSVP by Oct. 13.

For more information or to make a reservation, call the chapel support center 982-5556.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Tiffany Orr



## Sweet treat

**SPANAWAY, Wash. — Students Zakkary Beaton and Justin Allen prepare cookie batter Wednesday at Spanaway Junior High School as part of a Boys and Girls Club Culinary Arts class project. Justin and Zakkary are sons of Tech. Sgt. John Allen, deployed member with the 10th Airlift Squadron. Members from the 10th AS visited the school to pick up a total of 700 cookies to send to deployed Airmen on behalf of the students.**

## 817th EAS continues mission, maintains morale

By  
Tyler Hemstreet  
Staff writer

While a list of accomplishments is a testament to the hard work the 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron has put in while being deployed, it doesn't tell the entire story.

Airmen from the 62nd Airlift Wing's 10th Airlift Squadron deployed this summer to locations throughout Southwest Asia to assume operations of the 817th EAS.

The numbers speak for themselves: 1,653 combat sorties, 3,094 combat hours, 42.5 million pounds of cargo and 10,200 pallets moved through the halfway mark of the 817th EAS' deployment.

"We've been pretty busy," said 1st Lt. Paul Chase, 817th EAS.

But the sheer volume of the cargo transported and support provided for the ground forces aren't the only things the squadron is proud of.

The squadron moved more than 460 people from Lebanon to Germany as part of a humanitar-

ian evacuation mission, said Lieutenant Chase.

"It was great to pull people out of the war-torn area," he said. "It gave us a great amount of pride."

The 817th EAS is split between Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, which is supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Manas Air Base, Kyrgyzstan, which is supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

The humanitarian effort extended to life on the ground, too, as the squadron detachment at Manas participated in an outreach program to help rebuild local schools, said Lt. Col. Brian Robinson, 817th EAS commander.

The squadron even adopted a local orphanage by collecting supplies to help fill basic needs, Colonel Robinson said.

On the combat side, the squadron made its mark by performing the first combat air drop out of Manas in Operation Mountain Fury, delivering 50,000 pounds of ammunition to the front line. It also supported the Bailey Bridge movement in Afghanistan.

"I was surprised with how smooth everything came together," Lieutenant Chase said. "We've bonded together so much to run such a massive

operation. That's been an amazing thing to watch."

Once installed, the bridge will help reduce dependence on aerial re-supply to a remote, forward area, thereby keeping flight crews out of harms way in the high-threat area.

In addition to accomplishing the mission safely, Lieutenant Chase said both detachments took time on Sept. 11 to honor those lost in the attacks five years ago. The crews launched flights at the exact time when each of the four planes crashed into buildings in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington D.C. to honor those who were killed.

While flying different missions together and uniting for humanitarian causes has helped the crew bond, there has also been a coordinated effort to help crews relax and bring them closer together.

Recreational activities like a recent softball tournament at Incirlik have kept the squadron morale at a high level, said Colonel Robinson.

"We work hard to keep it interesting," he added. "It makes the deployment more tolerable."

McChord's 10th AS Airmen are expected to return home in early November.

### Weekend Weather

FRIDAY



Hi: 62  
Low: 45

SATURDAY



Hi: 61  
Low: 42

SUNDAY



Hi: 66  
Low: 38

Forecast generated at 7 a.m. Wednesday  
Courtesy of the 62nd Operations Support Squadron

### Mission accomplished

Total McChord sorties .....	14,519
Total flying hours .....	45,661.3
Cargo moved (tons) .....	119,493.2
Departure reliability rate .....	94.9%
Mission capable rate .....	84.7%
Personnel currently deployed .....	704
Reservists currently activated.....	232
(Jan. 1 to Tuesday. Numbers updated Tuesday.)	

### Don't miss it ...

#### Powered-Up FitFactor party

McChord youth ages 6 to 18 are invited to enjoy a fun run/skate/bike/walk, bouncy castles, games and snacks today from 3 to 5 p.m. at the youth center and from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at Bldg. 560.



# Grass is greener at McChord

By  
Col. Shane Hershman  
62nd Airlift Wing vice commander

I spent this week at Scott Air Force base meeting with Air Mobility Command leadership and other wing commanders.

There's a saying I'm sure most of you have heard, "The grass is always greener on the other side." That means that no matter what you have, what someone else has always looks better, nicer. That saying may be true in other circumstances, but not when you're the vice wing commander of the 62nd Airlift Wing.

Last week in wing standup, we recognized Michael DuCharme, 62nd Aerial Port Squadron, for 40 years of federal service. As he made a few comments to the commanders, one thing he said stood out to me: McChord is different from other bases; there's a different attitude here. What other bases have been unable to do, McChord Airmen have figured out a way to do it and excelled at it.

This is my third assignment to McChord. I have been here as a flight commander, a squadron commander and now as the vice wing commander. Each assignment here has shown me the "can-do" spirit of McChord's Airmen. The faces change every year as new ones PCS in and old ones PCS out, but the spirit remains the same.

How does a spirit remain constant when the people aren't? The answer is: it gets passed down. During my first assignment at McChord, I was amazed at what this wing accomplished daily. The operations tempo at McChord has always been high because each new generation of Airmen has not only accepted the challenge laid out by their predecessors, but also passed that challenge on to the new Airmen that arrived after them.

After a week speaking with my fellow leaders in Air Mobility Command, I know there's no place better than McChord. We're on the edge of the mobility front, leading the way and setting the example for others to follow. Even in the dry northwest summers, the grass is never greener some-

where else than it is at McChord, and that's because of all of you. Thank you!

**“ We’re on the edge of the mobility front, leading the way and setting the example for others to follow.”**

Col. Shane Hershman  
62nd Airlift Wing  
vice commander



## Anytime is a good time for an integrity check



*“... it never hurts to perform a self-integrity check now and again to evaluate if you are on a steady course to do the right thing, all the time.”*

Chief Master Sgt.  
Russell Kuck  
62nd Airlift Wing  
command chief

By  
Chief Master Sgt. Russell Kuck  
62nd Airlift Wing  
command chief master sergeant

What would possess someone not expecting a child to park in a pregnancy-reserved slot at the base exchange and then argue with a member of wing leadership (in uniform) when informed they couldn't park there.

Temporary insanity perhaps?

Or, let's consider the daily parade of individuals we catch stealing from our stores on base ... could it be sleep deprivation?

How about the Airman in uniform who walks and talks on his or her cell phone, or doesn't wear their hat outside or runs for cover at the first note of retreat?

I just can't think of a viable excuse for setting aside your integrity and doing something you know is unquestionably wrong.

Maybe these people have a low integrity threshold. In other words, the line at which they are willing to compromise their integrity is set a bit lower.

What's your integrity line set to ... what line would you cross?

Would you use a family member's handicapped parking pass even though they're not in the car? Or, maybe take a little soda at the food court when you only ordered water.

I know the majority of people on McChord would do the right thing when faced with all these situations.

It's the rare few who chose to ignore the little voice in their head and continue down a path they know is wrong.

Still, it never hurts to perform a self-integrity check now and again to evaluate if you are on a steady course to do the right thing, all the time.

So, next time you're driving on base, take a quick look in the mirror ... if you're holding a cell phone to your ear, you might need to raise your integrity a bit. Hooah!

### Ask the Vice Commander

E-mail [ActionLine@mcchord.af.mil](mailto:ActionLine@mcchord.af.mil) or call 982-2222

### Vice Commander's Action Line

**The Vice Commander's Action Line provides a direct link of communication between you and me, with the goal of building a better community. Your concerns, questions and ideas are highly valued and are key in enhancing Team McChord's mission and community. I encourage you to give the professionals here, together with your chain of command, the opportunity to address your concerns directly. However, questions that come through the Action Line have my personal attention. Please be sure to leave your name and phone number, so we can follow up with you. Comments and questions that apply to a large base audience will be published in the base newspaper.**

Col. Shane Hershman  
62nd Airlift Wing vice commander

**Q. The base jogging path from Bldg. 100 to Holiday Park used for physical training has some safety issues I think should be addressed. The crosswalk by the dorms has trees that block drivers' views of joggers, lighting is limited and joggers are running on the street in the dark on both sides of the street. Thank you.**

A. Fitness and safety are two topics I am always interested in. I encourage Airmen to stay fit, but everyone should do so safely. Jogging is prohibited on West and A streets, as well as Fairway,

Lincoln and Col. Joe Jackson boulevards. Joggers should use base jogging paths and wear light-colored clothes and reflective belts when running near roads during hours of reduced visibility. Airmen can wear the Air Force physical training gear at all times without reflective gear. IPODs, MP3 players or other listening devices are prohibited for safety purposes.

The lighting levels along the base jogging paths as well as many sidewalks and intersections on McChord are not as well lit as I would like. So

lighting levels along Barnes and Lincoln boulevards have been upgraded and a project has been identified to upgrade lighting on Col. Joe Jackson and Tuskegee boulevards.

My engineers examined your concern regarding the view at the crosswalk and found it within safe margins. They did, however, locate several unsafe conditions and will repair those areas along the path as funds become available. Thank you for bringing these important safety issues to my attention.

# Passion must be tempered with sound judgement

By  
Maj. Rhonda Larson  
62nd Mission Support Squadron commander

When I was a lieutenant, I had the not-so-good sense to argue with the wing commander in his weekly standup meeting. He wanted my flight to send a weekly product to the individual squadrons, which I felt the squadrons could better produce for themselves. I thought if only I explained myself clearly for the third time, my wing commander would surely agree with me. I don't remember exactly when we finally conceded, but I remember my squadron commander later advising me there were more effective ways to achieve resolution and keep the wing commander happy than by arguing with him.

It's occurred to me that while we want to encourage passion for Air Force core, as well as personal, values among all Airmen, passion should be tempered with good judgment.

Chinese philosopher Sun Tzu, wrote, "The general who wins the battle makes many calculations in his temple before the battle is fought." Most of us aren't going to be generals in battle, but I believe Sun Tzu's advice applies to each of us in everyday situations. When we feel passionately enough about something to "go to war" or try to argue our point, it makes sense to consider all our options, as well as the likely consequences. If, for example, I don't like the hair color I've ended

**“ When we feel passionately enough about something to “go to war” or try to argue our point, it makes sense to consider all our options, ”**

— Maj. Rhonda Larson  
62nd Mission Support Squadron commander

up with, I probably shouldn't berate my hairstylist for her lack of skill right before I let her cut my hair — the consequences wouldn't be favorable. It'd probably be better to diplomatically suggest a color fix after she's finished cutting. To use a more military example, if my troops weren't getting the information they needed from another unit in order to execute their mission, I'd have more chance at favorable resolution if I calmly discussed the situation with the commander of that other unit, than if I called his or her troop directly and chewed them out — that would be unprofessional and would bring about many bad consequences.

Just as each Airman should apply operational risk management principles before engaging in potentially high risk activities, each of us to needs to apply a good dose of forethought and judgment before charging into a situation we feel passionately about. Sun Tzu would certainly approve.



## Combat Airlifter

of the week

**Staff Sgt. George DeGuzman**

62nd Maintenance Operations Squadron

**Duty title:**  
Instructor/developer

**Duty Section:**  
Distance Learning Center

**Hometown:**  
San Francisco, Calif.



### What makes him so great?

Sergeant DeGuzman instructs 72 people per month on cardiopulmonary resuscitation, self-aid buddy care and individual first aid. He also maintains and develops computer-based training programs, updating more than 2,500 people per month. Sergeant DeGuzman supports McChord and the community as a member of McChord's Honor Guard. He also volunteers six hours per week at Tacoma General Hospital's Child Services Department. He's maintained a 4.0 grade point average as he pursues his master's degree in business management and enjoys helping people in need.

### Do you have a story idea?

**Spread the news in *The Northwest Airlifter*!**  
E-mail us at [northwestairlifter@mcchord.af.mil](mailto:northwestairlifter@mcchord.af.mil)



Photo by Abner Guzman



## Voices against violence

**“The Yellow Dress,” performed by Meaghan Boeing, was presented at the base theater for the first time Monday. The play is a dramatic one-woman performance based on the stories of young women who were victims of domestic violence. Sponsored by McChord Family Advocacy, the event was presented in an effort to promote domestic violence prevention.**

# McChord heats up for Fire Prevention Week

By  
Tyler Hemstreet  
Staff writer

As Fire Prevention Week kicks off on Monday, this year’s theme of “Watch What You Heat — Prevent Cooking Fires,” hits home at McChord.

Since the beginning of the year, McChord has had five unattended cooking fires, according to Sandra Cooper, 62nd Civil Engineer Squadron assistant chief of fire prevention.

“It’s been our most common type of fire [at McChord],” she said. “We’ve had some second and third degree burns. That’s why we really, really want to get this message out.”

The 62nd CES Fire Department has several activities planned for the week to help reinforce fire safety messages.

“We have taken on a very aggressive public campaign,” Ms. Cooper said.

Among the highlights will be a housing safety demonstration Oct. 10 and 11 located at 3030 Oak Street. The demonstration will include three videos set up in different locations of the house illus-

trating the potential fire dangers for each area. A smoke machine will be set up in one of the rooms to provide a hands-on demonstration.

“It’s a good way to have people get an idea of what it would be like if your house was on fire, without the heat,” Ms. Cooper said.

Other activities include visits by Sparky the Fire Dog, the fire department’s mascot, to the child development center and the Escape Zone. Displays will also be set up at the commissary and the base exchange.

The fire prevention activities geared toward children are part of a coordinated effort by the 62nd CES to educate them at an early age, said Maj. Dwayne McCullion, 62nd CES acting commander.

“Parents should make an effort to establish escape plans and meeting places outside their home in case an incident was to occur,” Major McCullion said. “It’s important to talk about this plan with children and practice it at least twice a year.”

In addition to establishing escape plans, Ms. Cooper also recommends families changing the batteries in the house smoke detectors on a routine basis.



# Uniform changes now mandatory

WASHINGTON — Noticeable changes with the Air Force uniform became effective Sunday across the force.

Three changes include doing away with enlisted shoulder board ranks and introducing a new physical training uniform and an insignia.

The Air Force introduced shoulder board rank, originally called shoulder mark insignia, for senior NCOs in 1982. At the time, the Air Force said that was a way to bring added recognition to the top three enlisted ranks. Senior NCOs may now only wear shoulder boards on the blue sweater.

Many senior enlisted leaders agree NCOs should wear chevrons, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley said.

“We are excited for our enlisted force to return to our heritage of wearing our stripes on our sleeves,” the chief said. “Now every Airman should be proud to wear their rank on their sleeve.”

Airmen will now also have physical training gear to wear when taking part in group physical training events or annual fitness tests.

“You should have a full compliment of PT gear,” Chief McKinley said. “This uniform gives us distinction as Airmen as we increase our fitness and readiness.”

The insignia change takes place Jan. 1. The U.S. insignia in a circle will be mandatory wear on the service dress uniform enlisted members wear. The change reverts back to the traditional insignia — with the circle — Airmen wore from 1918 through the early 1990s.

*(Courtesy of Air Force Print News Service)*

## LRS limits GSA vehicle repairs

By  
Chris Ferris

62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron

Due to a reduction in manning, the 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Vehicle Maintenance Flight is no longer responsible for maintaining General Services Administration vehicles effectively immediately.

Vehicle maintenance will no longer be allowed to make repairs — even minor ones — to any GSA vehicle. The task now goes to each unit's vehicle control officer, who will play a major role in ensuring the vehicle fleet is maintained within standards.

Some of the new responsibilities each unit will have include taking their vehicles to a local vendor for scheduled maintenance and repairs, contacting a local vendor when towing services are required and maintaining spare keys.

According to the 62nd LRS intranet Web site, units must pre-authorize each maintenance or repair order that will exceed \$100 including parts and labor. VCOs may use their unit's government purchase card for maintenance or repairs that cost less than \$100.

The 62nd LRS Vehicle Management and Analysis office will still be responsible for management of the GSA fleet and will be there to help each unit's VCO to ensure a safe and serviceable fleet is maintained.

GSA vehicle maintenance information is available at the vehicle management and analysis office or online at: <https://62msg.mcchord.af.mil/62LRS/default.aspx>

For more information, contact a unit VCO. VCOs may address any questions by calling the vehicle management and analysis staff at 982-7544 or 982-7545.



Photo by Abner Guzman

## Cheers!

From left, Chief Master Sgt. Cary Hatzinger, Army Brig. Gen. William Troy and his wife Paula, Marine Sgt. Maj. William Kinney, and Army Command Sgt. Maj. Tommy Williams offer a toast during the Joint E-9 Ball Sept. 29 at American Lake Community Center in Fort Lewis, Wash. The annual event brings together servicemembers of the highest enlisted rank, E-9, for camaraderie among the joint services. Chief Hatzinger is the 62nd Mission Support Group superintendent; General Troy is the deputy commanding general for I Corps and Fort Lewis; Sgt. Maj. Kinney is Pacific Command sergeant major; and Command Sgt. Maj. Williams is I Corps and Fort Lewis command sergeant major.

# AFSO 21 requires working smarter

By  
Col. Matthew Arens

Air Force Smart Operations for Air Mobility Command

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — In the March 2006 Letter to Airmen, Secretary of the Air Force Michael Wynne articulated Air Force Smart Operations as a dedicated effort to maximize value and minimize waste in our operations by looking at each process from beginning to end. It doesn't just look at how we can do each task better, but asks tougher and more important questions: Why are we doing it? Is the task relevant, productive and value added? In other words, is it necessary at all? With Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century, we will march unnecessary work out the door — forever.

In early August, Air Mobility Command was one of the first commands to release its strategy deployment for implementing AFSO 21. This was a first step in what will become a long and difficult journey because with a smaller, leaner force we cannot afford to keep large bureaucratic and wasteful processes in place. Gen. Duncan McNabb, AMC commander, said it succinctly by stating, “Working harder is not an option...we must work smarter!” We need every Airman out there to look at the work they do and assess the value to the mission. General McNabb's number one priority is, “improving velocity through the system,” so if a task doesn't help support that goal then we must ask whether we need to do it at all.

In order to ensure we all don't go about in different directions, General McNabb has given us

a true north vector by releasing his vision and mission statement. He also articulated his top three Breakthrough Objectives along with the command's Annual Enterprise Improvement Priorities.

The AFSO 21 office at McChord has already developed 24 Annual Improvement Priorities for the base in support of the BTOs, said Robert Shaw, continuous process improvement consultant with the 62nd Mission Support Group.

Some of the projects in support of the AIPs include the 62nd Maintenance Squadron, 62nd MSG and the 62nd Operations Group getting together to smooth out the aircraft recovery process, as well as the 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron finding a more efficient way to deal with the order and delivery of aircraft parts.

“We just have to find the wastefulness in those projects and eliminate it,” Mr. Shaw said.

The AIPs are the key to making everything work, he added.

“It's our primary architecture,” Mr. Shaw said. “That's how we are going to support AMC and ourselves.”

He said each AIP will have a certain time constraint and a required percentage of improvement desired in the specific area.

AMC headquarters are here to help. Its role is to enable Airmen to do the mission in the most efficient and effective way possible and not to be a barrier to change. It will take time to affect our collective culture but AMC needs everyone from Airman to commander to be proponents of change and embrace it with passion.

*(The 62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs office contributed to this story.)*

## Combined Federal Campaign



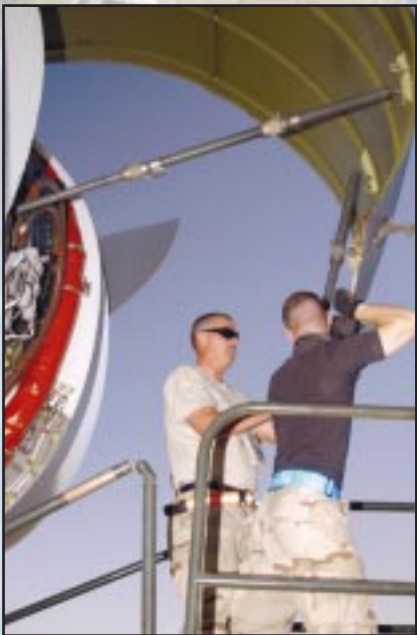
Visitors can search for charities both locally and internationally by logging into the Combined Federal Campaign website. For more information about the CFC, visit [www.cfcgive.org](http://www.cfcgive.org). To make a donation, contact your unit CFC representative.



The U.S. military

# AROUND THE WORLD

Photo by Senior Airman James Croxon



**BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq** — Staff Sgt. Robert Miller and Airman 1st Class Mark Mano open the engine cowl- ing of a C-17 Globemaster III recently. The Airmen are assigned to the 721st Air Mobility Operations Group, Detachment 5, which is responsible for the recover- ing, marshaling and repair of the C-5 Galaxies and C-17s that land here. (AFPN)

Photo by Janice Abate



**BOSTON, Mass.,** — The USS Constitution sails past Castle Island in Boston Harbor during a turn- around cruise for more than 70 Medal of Honor recipients Saturday. The Constitution is the oldest commissioned warship afloat. While on board, the Medal of Honor recipients were honored with a Medal of Honor flag presen- tation. (AFPN)

Photo by Airman 1st Class Chad Strohmeyer



**OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea** — Maj. Paul Neidhardt sets off a flare during combat search and rescue training recently near the base. Annual training is conducted by survival, evasion, resistance and escape instructors to reacquaint aircrew mem- bers with combat search and rescue procedures and tech- niques. (AFPN)

U.S. Air Force photo



**AL ASAD AIR BASE, Iraq** — Senior Airman Macmillan Achu, (back, middle) and Senior Airman Bran- don Graser (right) decide on the best way to load a truck onto a C-17 here recently. The two Airmen are deployed loadmasters from the 10th Airlift Squadron. (AFPN)





# A TOWER OF POWER

## Air traffic controllers serve as air maestros, ensuring harmony across McChord skies

By  
Tyler Hemstreet  
Staff writer

With more than 150 planes taking off and landing each day at McChord, the control tower plays an essential role in making sure everything operates in harmony.

The job of the control tower is to safely separate aircraft landing and departing McChord and train air traffic controllers so they can deploy and support the mission, said Tom Quick, 62nd Operations Support Squadron air traffic control watch supervisor.

With airplanes taking off and coming in at all hours of the day, the control tower is in constant motion. Peering out the giant windows with binoculars and interpreting the extensive network of radar screens, air traffic controllers provide pilots with vital weather information and warn them of any potential landing dangers, such as birds or emergency vehicles on the runway.

A stackable board with tiles, called flight progress strips, contains each aircraft's flight plans. The flight progress strips give controllers the aircraft's callsign, type of aircraft and equipment suffix, the aircraft transponder squawk (a four digit number that appears on the computer screen to help keep track of aircraft), time of aircraft operation, altitude, where the aircraft is headed, parking spot on the runway and any other important information.

Controllers must also keep a watchful eye and careful ear on the McChord airspace.

"There's a lot of general aviation airports around," Mr. Quick said. "They call us and let us know when they're about to enter into our airspace."

By monitoring who is coming through the airspace, controllers can ensure a safe approach for everyone landing and departing.

While sunny and clear weather conditions and slow times during the day can cause a drop in activity, there's plenty of training opportunities available to keep the Airmen busy.

Located adjacent to the control tower is a room with an advanced control tower simulator, which contains a four-panel screen that spans nearly the entire room. Containing all the same controls and radar as the real tower, the simulator gives Airmen a chance to train for situations they likely won't see very often, said Senior Airman Rachel Keener, 62nd OSS.

The simulator can create emergencies like hijack situations and planes catching on fire. While the normal setting displays the runways at McChord, the simulator may be programmed to model various deployed bases, complete with several different weather patterns. It can also be programmed to bring many different types of aircraft into landing simulations. Using a special function, trainees can also move a mouse over each incoming aircraft to magnify the size, similar to using a pair of binoculars.

"It's a good tool to help our trainees maintain their proficiency," Airman Keener said.

Because regulations are always changing, Airman Keener said the trainees routinely spend one hour a day in the simulator.

In addition to testing each trainee's ability to work the controls, the simulator also helps them get acclimated with learning the correct radio lingo required to communicate with each aircraft.

"Getting the air traffic control ear is one of the hardest parts of the training," Mr. Quick said. "You have to hear things and process the information and establish a course of action that will result in a safe operation."

It's a way to prepare Airmen for future operations.

"We try and get them ready for busier traffic," Mr. Quick said.

Bases that contain mostly transport aircraft can have different regulations as opposed to bases that are home to fighters and bombers, he said.

"When they go to a brand new place they are going to have to relearn everything," Mr. Quick added. "They might have a different airframe and different certifications."



Photos by Abner Guzman

First Lieutenant John Dyson, 62nd Operations Support Squadron, reviews aircraft departure information.



Airman 1st Class Brian Zimmerman, 62nd OSS, scans for a visual of an approaching aircraft during a simulated training session.



From left, Airman 1st Class Andrew Drury instructs Airman 1st Class Melissa Becker, both 62nd OSS, during her tower certification training.



Graphic design by Angela Jossy



# 62nd CPTS excels during crunch time

By  
Tyler Hemstreet  
Staff writer

The celebration surrounding the official close of the fiscal year for 62nd Comptroller Squadron is often short-lived. As soon as FY 2006 comes to a close, 62nd CPTS is already focused on FY 2007.

But while the transition rarely comes as a surprise to Department of Defense employees, it nevertheless adds a bit of stress to the office.

"It's fast-paced, it's hectic, but everyone knows their part," said Suzanne Colpitts, 62nd CPTS budget officer. "Each desk has something they take care of and they all come together at the close."

While other squadrons on base are finalizing their last minute purchases before the end of the fiscal year, 62nd CPTS is feverishly keeping track of more than \$579 million in purchases, she said.

"It's a little bigger than your own checkbook," quipped Master Sgt. Debbie Tomack, 62nd CPTS.

This year in particular, the task of closing the books on FY 2006 and starting FY 2007 is a little tougher than usual, said Ms.

Colpitts. The Air Force made a major change in the accounting data elements in order to make everything consistent across the board.

"It creates havoc," Ms. Colpitts said.

While making the changes to the numbering system that covers more than 700 civilian workers on base, the squadron was also making sure all the contracts in the system were cleared up and checking to see if all the extra little balances were freed up.

"We have to account for every dollar," said Master Sgt. Laurie Coleman, 62nd CPTS.

While the 62nd CPTS keeps track of the budget, they don't hand out the checks; that job goes to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service in Maine, which handles all financial transactions for Air Mobility Command.

Through constant phone and e-mail communication, the 62nd CPTS verifies that all the data that is sent to DFAS is correct, said Sergeant Tomack.

The office also plays a large role in saving the Air Force money by constantly monitoring the numbers to see if the government is accruing late interest on any monies due to contractors. While interest penalties might be a drop in the bucket compared to the \$579 mil-



Photo by Staff Sgt. Minnette Fontanilla

**Members from the 62nd Comptroller Squadron financial management analysis section certify documents Wednesday in a finance suite in Bldg. 100. FMA is responsible for keeping track of the 62nd Airlift Wing's budget.**

lion total budget, Ms. Colpitts said that if prevented, the money can be used for better things that actually benefit each base.

By carefully combing over the budget, the squadron can also be the bearer of good news. Extra

money that isn't spent during the fiscal year is identified and sent back to AMC, Ms. Colpitts said.

That can pave the way for bases to maintain readiness, modernize infrastructure and improve the quality of life, she said.





# Falcons’ opener true blue success

By  
Wayne Amann  
U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Air Force football fans were rewarded for their patience Saturday as the Falcons’ long-awaited home opener resulted in a 24-7 bluesuiter victory over the University of New Mexico Lobos at Falcon Stadium.

Head coach Fisher DeBerry’s troops wasted little time taking command of the Mountain West Conference matchup.

On the second play of the game Air Force free safety Julian Madrid forced a fumble by New Mexico running back Rodney Ferguson, which Falcon senior corner back Chris Sutton pounced on at the Lobo 15 yard line.

Three plays later, Air Force quarterback Shaun Carney powered his way for a 3-yard touchdown run to give the Falcons a 6-0 lead they would never relinquish. The Air Force has scored a touchdown on its first drive in every game this season.

“That set the tone,” said DeBerry, “but I didn’t think we tackled well in the second quarter, and I got on them about it at halftime.”

He was referring to the screen pass New Mexico tailback Rodney Ferguson caught and turned into a 58-yard touchdown by breaking several Air Force tackles in the second quarter. It was the only letdown by the Falcons all afternoon.

On the previous possession, Air Force halfback Chad Hall raced 38 yards around the left end to extend Air Force’s lead to 13-0.

“I haven’t seen a halfback show that kind of spurt in a long time,” DeBerry said. “When he ran down the sideline he was really motoring.”

The Falcons were running on all cylinders, much to the approval of the 40,453 spectators on what was billed as the “Blue Out” game. Fans were asked to wear something blue in the stands to show their support of and welcome back their Falcons, who were finally playing a home game on their new turf field after a scheduling quirk had them idle for two of the first three weeks of the season.

New Mexico (2-2, 0-1 MWC) was sporting its familiar cherry red and silver colors but felt blue after a costly mistake early in the fourth quarter.

Air Force had just upped its lead to 17-7 thanks to Zach Sasser’s 48-yard field goal, the longest of his career. Sasser’s ensuing kickoff was a line drive that Lobo return man Glover Quin fumbled off his shin. The ball was recovered by Falcon Aaron Kirchoff at the New Mexico



Photo by John Van Winkle

**Air Force fullback Ryan Williams stiff-arms New Mexico defender Quincy Black as he runs for extra yardage up the middle in their game Saturday. The Falcons fullback gained 94 yards and one touchdown on 22 carries, in their 24-7 victory over New Mexico.**

20 yard line. It was Kirchoff’s third fumble recovery of the campaign, all on kickoffs.

DeBerry told reporters Sasser simply missed the ball when asked if that was a planned play. Sasser agreed.

“It was supposed to go middle deep, but I hit it a little high,” the kicker admitted. “I was excited about making the field goal, and I tried to kill it. Luckily it worked out.”

His teammates cashed in on the turnover when fullback Ryan Williams, who had a game-high 94 yards on a career-high 22 carries, ran the ball in from two yards out to cap the scoring.

The Falcons gave New Mexico’s defense a steady diet of their fullbacks, especially in the second half. The trio of Williams, Scott Peeples and Jacobe Kendrick combined for 151 of Air Force’s 262 net rushing yards. Their success on the ground enabled Carney to pass sparingly, just 3-of-5 for 19 yards.

“We said let’s make them stop what we do best,” the junior signal caller explained. “As long as our fullbacks were giving them trouble by get-

ting first downs, there was no need to change anything.”

The Air Force has scored a touchdown in 159 consecutive games, dating back to a 13-0 loss to the University of Mississippi in the 1992 Liberty Bowl. It’s the ninth longest streak in the nation.

The win leaves the Falcons (2-1, 2-0 MWC) alone on top of the conference.

“We like where we are now,” said DeBerry, who leads all active MWC coaches with 99 conference victories. “But there’s some unfinished business.”

The Air Force battles Navy Saturday, the three-year holder of the coveted Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy, symbolic of inter-service football supremacy.

“My class lost it our freshman year so this is a big game for us,” Sutton said. “We don’t have to prove anything to Navy. We have to prove it to the Air Force, the academy and who we represent. We want to prove to the graduates who won this trophy we’re good enough to get it back and keep it.”

## Intramural Flag Football Standings

Team:	GP:	W:	L:	PCT:
MED GP	5	5	0	1.000
AMXS	5	5	0	1.000
WADS	4	4	0	1.000
MXS	5	4	1	0.800
8th AS	4	3	1	0.750
22 STS	4	3	1	0.750
APS	4	3	1	0.750
SFS	6	4	2	0.667
COMM	4	2	2	0.500
SVS	5	2	3	0.400
LRS	5	2	3	0.400
OSS	5	2	3	0.400
7TH AS	4	1	3	0.250
CES	4	1	3	0.250
1 ASOG	5	1	4	0.200

GP — GAMES PLAYED  
W — WINS  
L — LOSSES  
PCT — WINNING PERCENTAGE



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tiffany Orr

## Be aggressive

Curtis Storm, quarterback for the 62nd Medical Group, looks to make a pass while trying to dodge the 1st Air Support Operations Group defense Tuesday at Rainier Field. The 62nd MDG won the flag football game 41-0. Games are held Monday through Thursday at Rainier Field. For a schedule, visit [http://62services.com/fitness\\_intramurals.html](http://62services.com/fitness_intramurals.html).



Gate entry policy change

There has been an increase in security measures at McChord gates. All passengers should have their identification readily available when entering base.

Family deployment dinner

The next Quarterly Family Deployment Dinner is from 6 to 8 p.m. Oct. 16 at the chapel support center, Bldg. 746. Families of McChord servicemembers who are deployed, on an extended TDY or a remote tour are invited. To make a reservation, call 982-5556.

Retirement ceremonies

- Master Sgt. Timothy Smith, 62nd Mission Support Squadron, is retiring at 3 p.m. today at McChord's Clubs and Community Center.
- Master Sgt. Michael Brown, 62nd Security Forces Squadron, is retiring at 11 a.m. today at Overlook Park.
- Master Sgt. Paul Racy, 4th Airlift Squadron, is retiring at 1 p.m. Oct. 13 in the 4th AS auditorium.

Hispanic heritage fiesta

A Hispanic Heritage Month fiesta is from 4 to 7 p.m. Oct. 13 at McChord's Clubs and Community Center, Bldg. 700. For more information, call 2nd Lt. Teresa Moreno at 982-3907.

Voting hotline

For questions and information about voting, call 982-VOTE. Information on voting is also available on McChord's Voting Assistance Intranet Web site at <https://62aw.mcchord.af.mil/VotingAssistance>

[/default.asp](#), the Federal Voting Assistance Web site at <http://www.fvap.gov>, by calling Maj. Rob Schmidt at 982-9937 or speaking with a unit voting representative.

Seeking volunteers

The American Indian Heritage Committee needs volunteers for American Indian Heritage Month events. This year's theme is "A Warrior's Tradition: Contributing to Our Nation's Freedom." For more information, call Capt. Russell Foxworth at 982-1224 or e-mail him at [russell.foxworth@mcchord.af.mil](mailto:russell.foxworth@mcchord.af.mil).

American Indian Luncheon

The American Indian Heritage Committee is hosting an American Indian Heritage Month Luncheon with Fort Lewis personnel at 11:30 a.m. Nov. 2 at McChord's Clubs and Community Center. For more information, call Capt. Russell Foxworth at 982-1224.

W-2 forms

Hard copy 2006 W-2 forms will no longer be issued via mail. They will only be available through the MyPay Web site. Those who have not obtained their MyPay Personal Identification Numbers should do so now at <http://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx> prior to the tax season. For more information, call the financial support office customer service section at 982-3945.

Base announcements

To post information for and find out about upcoming events, visit base announcements on

McChord's Intranet, [https://intranet.mcchord.af.mil/B](https://intranet.mcchord.af.mil/Base%Announcements)

Motorcycle instructors

The 62nd Airlift Wing Safety Office is looking for experienced and responsible motorcycle riders to become motorcycle safety instructors. For more information, call the safety office at 982-5325.

Vehicle decals

Department of Defense vehicle decals are issued from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at the visitor control center. Decals may also be obtained 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday in Bldg. 100, Suite 1001E. People must have their vehicle registration, driver's license, insurance and DOD identification card to obtain a decal. For more information, call 982-2256 or 982-1995.

Multimedia Web site

Those with access to McChord's Intranet can visit multimedia's Sharepoint Web site at <https://62msg.mcchord.af.mil/62CS/SCS/SCSM/basemultimedia/default.aspx> to access photos from recent shoots.

Request for leave

The Civilian Personnel Flight seeks individuals willing to donate their annual leave for Tony Wright, 62nd Comptroller Squadron, due to medical conditions. To donate any annual leave, complete and fax OPM Form 630A and a supervisory checklist to 982-3213, ATTN: Dinah Naputi. For more information, call Ms. Naputi at 982-3805.



# Faith and Worship Programs

*For more information, call the chapel support center at 982-5556.*

The following chapel programs take place at the base chapel support center, Bldg. 746, unless otherwise noted.

- **Faith Formation and Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults** are 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. through April.
- **Protestant Men's Bible**

- study** is 6:15 a.m. Thursdays.
- **Combat Brown Bag Bible study** is from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays.
- **Adult Bible study** will resume in September.
- **Jewish Torah School Classes** for adults and children are 9:45 a.m. Sundays at Fort Lewis, Chapel Five.

Schedule of worship services

Catholic Services:

All Catholic Services are in Chapel Two  
Daily Mass Tuesday - Friday 11:30 a.m.  
Saturday: 4 p.m. Confession 5 p.m. Mass  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Mass 11 a.m. Mass

Protestant Services:

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Liturgical Worship: Chapel One  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages: chapel support center  
11 a.m. Traditional Worship: Chapel One  
11 a.m. Contemporary service: chapel support center

Jewish Services:

Friday: 7 p.m. Fort Lewis Chapel  
Corner of 12th St. & Liggett 966-8949  
Led by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Avi Weiss

Orthodox Activities:

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy, St. Nicholas Church, 15th & Yakima, Tacoma

Other services:

Orthodox Christian Community, Cascade Chapel, Fort Lewis  
Sundays: 8:45 a.m. pre-Communion prayers 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy  
Confessions are by appointment; call Father John Anderson at 967-1717 or 906-6843, or e-mail [father.anderson@us.army.mil](mailto:father.anderson@us.army.mil).





Air Force meets 2006 recruiting goals

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The Air Force exceeded its fiscal 2006 enlisted recruiting goal of 30,750 by assessing 30,888 men and women into active duty from Oct. 1, 2005, through Sept. 30, 2006.

Air Force Recruiting Service also was successful in recruiting line officers and chaplains, bringing in 485 line officers and 31 chaplains for 100 percent of the yearly goal.

Line officers include pilots, navigators and those in technical and non-technical fields who attend Officer Training School, which is one of three commissioning sources. The other commissioning sources are Air Force ROTC and the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs.

“The Air Force needed more than 30,000 new professionals in 150 career fields and we accomplished that 100-percent plus,” said Brig. Gen. Suzanne M. “Zan” Vautrinot, AFRS commander. “Our nation asked the Air Force to provide special skills to ensure pararescue, combat controllers, linguists and other technical-ly and physically challenging areas were filled, and we did that. Our Air Force showcased extraordinary career

opportunities and brought in amazing people to protect our great nation.”

With the start of the new fiscal year, General Vautrinot emphasizes the Air Force still needs hundreds of doctors, dentists, nurses and pharmacists, as well as ground and airborne linguists. It also needs people to fill special-operations career fields such as pararescue and combat control.

New well gives new hope to village

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan — The Air Force-led Bagram Provincial Reconstruction Team opened a new well in the Kohi Safi valley Tuesday that will bring clean water to several hundred Afghans in a nearby village.

Located near the village of Baba ghombakay and costing just under \$9,000, the well will serve as the primary water source for more than a hundred families. The well-opening gives the village elders hope as they will have clean water for the winter season and beyond.

The district chief and the village leader spoke of how the villagers normally had to make a 500-meter trek down to the local river to get water. Sometimes it was flowing well with

mountain run-off, but lately had slowed to a trickle. Also, occasionally the river would be full of mud and would be undrinkable for days, they said.

Now clean water will always be available close to the village.

Completing the well was just one step planned for the remote village. Now that clean water is available, there are plans to construct another well on the other side of the village, along with a school and medical clinic.

Army Maj. Don Johnson, Parwan Provincial Reconstruction Team leader, said the team was not just looking at individual projects such as opening wells or roads, but also at developing systems for the countryside.

“We all need to be patient, but soon Afghanistan will be again free and prosperous,” he said.

Some Airmen can carry over leave

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Airmen who were recalled from or unable to take annual leave this past year for reasons such as support for contingency operations may be allowed to accumulate more than the normal 60 days after the fiscal year ends.

Special leave accrual carry over also applies to Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members who performed full-time training or other full-time duties for 30 days or more.

Airmen who lost leave may carry over the following leave amounts:

- Up to 120 days for Airmen deployed or assigned to hostile fire/imminent danger pay areas;
- Up to 120 days for Airmen impacted by significant and unforeseen operational mission requirements as a result of Hurricane Katrina; and
- Up to 90 days for Airmen who deployed or were assigned to other than hostile fire/imminent danger locations.

Additionally, Airmen who lost leave as a consequence of assignments in support of contingency operations as of Sept. 30, 2006, are authorized restoration of the leave they lost.

Those Airmen who meet the criteria for having excess leave should contact their local military personnel flight customer service element for additional guidance, such as eligibility to carry over leave beyond the following fiscal year.

